

MANSFIELD AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE  
APPROVED Minutes of August 7, 2012 meeting  
Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building, Conference Room B, 7:30 p.m.

1. Chairman Al Cyr called the meeting to order at 7:35.

PRESENT: Al Cyr, Charlie Galgowski, Vicky Wetherell, Meredith Poehlitz, Kathleen Paterson, Jennifer Kaufman (staff). New member Bryan Kielbania was welcomed to the committee.

2. Minutes of the July 10 meeting were approved.

**New Business**

3. *Leasing Policy* The committee discussed several aspects of leasing Town farmland to farmers: goals, leasing process, criteria for selecting a tenant, length of leases. The committee set a schedule for submitting a leasing plan to the Council and implementing the RFP process for 2014 leases. A subcommittee was appointed to develop draft criteria for consideration at the September 4 meeting.

4. *Annual Report* Jennifer will circulate a draft for the committee to review.

5. *Announcements* Jennifer reported that a consultant has been chosen to help develop an agricultural strategy over the next three years. This is part of a Town-wide planning project funded by a HUD grant. Kathleen reminded us that the Festival on the Green parade on September 23 is an opportunity for agricultural folks to participate in a public event.

6. *Future Agendas* Leasing policy, Festival parade, Elisabeth Moore of Ct. Farmland Trust to discuss agricultural easements.

7. The meeting adjourned at 9:15. The next meeting is on September 4.